

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 BEIRUT 03436 181459Z

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 AID-05 TRSE-00 /062 W

-----100753 181603Z /40

R 181400Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4604

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BEIRUT 3436

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PDEV LE

SUBJ: PIERRE GEMAYEL CALLS FOR DIALOGUE WITH ISLAMIC GROUP

1. SUMMARY: AS PARLIAMENT RECONVENES IN EXTRAORDINARY SESSION, PIERRE GEMAYEL--BUT NOT OTHER LEBANESE FRONT LEADERS--HAS CALLED FOR A CHRISTIAN DIALOGUE WITH MODERATE MOSLEMS. END SUMMARY.

2. PHALANGE DAILY AL AMAL JULY 14 FRONT-PAGED STATEMENT JULY 13 BY PIERRE GEMAYEL PROPOSING A DIALOGUE BETWEEN CHRISTIAN "LEBANESE FRONT" AND SUNNI MOSLEM "ISLAMIC GROUP." GEMAYEL MADE IT CLEAR HOWEVER THAT HE SPOKE ONLY FOR THE PHALANGE PARTY, NOT FOR OTHER ELEMENTS OF LEBANESE FRONT. AL AMAL SAID NEW TREND (PRESUMABLY PHALANGE PARTY ATTITUDE) IS TO PURSUE SIMULTANEOUSLY LEBANESE-LEBANESE POLITICAL RECONCILIATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF CAIRO ACCORD. EVEN PIERRE'S HARDLINING SON BECHIR, IN A SPEECH JULY 13, CALLED ON SARKIS GOVERNMENT TO ISSUE A "SINGLE DECREE WHICH WILL PUT LEBANON BACK ON THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 BEIRUT 03436 181459Z

POLITICAL MAP."

3. LEBANESE FRONT NOT UNITED. NATIONAL LIBERAL PARTY DAILY AL AHRAR JULY 15 DISMISSED GEMAYEL'S PROPOSAL AS "TEST BALLOON WITHOUT FOUNDATION," AND REPEATED CHAMOUNIST THEME THAT PALESTINIAN "INTRANSIGENCE" IS ROOT CAUSE OF CONTINUING CRISIS. ON JULY 16, CHAMOUN HIMSELF STATED HIS OPPOSITION TO A

LEBANESE FRONT-ISLAMIC GROUP DIALOGUE AT THIS TIME AND REPEATED HIS DEMANDS FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CAIRO ACCORD. SOMEWHAT INCONGRUOUSLY, AT THE SAME TIME HE DENIED ANY DISAGREEMENT WITHIN THE LEBANESE FRONT.

4. MODERATE MOSLEMS GENERALLY FAVORABLE. SAEB SALAM, RACHID SOLH, CHAFIC WAZZAN AND OTHERS OF THE ISLAMIC GROUP HAVE WELCOMED GEMAYEL'S CALL. EVEN KAMAL SHATILA OF THE UNION OF WORKING PEOPLES' FORCES SPOKE FAVORABLY OF A DIALOGUE WHICH "SHOULD RISE ABOVE CONFESSIONAL CONSIDERATIONS..AND RESULT IN A POLITICAL ACCORD UNDER THE AUSPICES OF PRESIDENT SARKIS." RACHID KARAME, HOWEVER, HAS TAKEN A MORE CAUTIOUS ATTITUDE, STATING HE IS IN FAVOR OF A MEETING "GROUPING ORGANIZATIONS AND ACTIVE FORCES IN LEBANON."

5. THE LEFT UNENTHUSIASTIC. INDEPENDENT NASSERIST LEADER SAMIR SABBAGH SAID GEMAYEL'S PROPOSALS AMOUNTED TO RECOURSE TO "OUTDATED METHODS."

6. COMMENT: GEMAYEL PROPOSAL COMES AT TIME WHEN PARLIAMENT IS RECONVENING IN EXTRAORDINARY SESSION, FOR PERHAPS TWO WEEKS, AMONG OTHER THINGS TO CONSIDER WHETHER OR NOT TO RENEW THE GOVERNMENT'S EXTRAORDINARY POWERS. IF A MODERATE CHRISTIAN-MODERATE MOSLEM RAPPROCHEMENT PROVES TO BE POSSIBLE, IT COULD CHANGE LEBANON'S ENTIRE INTERNAL POLITICAL COMPLEXION, AND LEAD TOWARD A CENTRIST "POLITICAL" (AS OPPOSED TO "TECHNOCRATIC") LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 BEIRUT 03436 181459Z

GOVERNMENT. MEANWHILE, THERE ARE OBVIOUS STRESSES WITHIN THE LEBANESE FRONT. ITS "DIRECTORATE" WILL BE MEETING JULY 20, IN THE ABSENCE OF PIERRE GEMAYEL, WHO IS IN MOROCCO. PARKER

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 18-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BEIRUT03436
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770255-1316
Format: TEL
From: BEIRUT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770749/aaaabpur.tel
Line Count: 98
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 6aed356a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1834813
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PIERRE GEMAYEL CALLS FOR DIALOGUE WITH ISLAMIC GROUP
TAGS: PDEV, LE, LEBANESE FRONT, ISLAMIC GROUP, (GEMAYEL, PIERRE)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/6aed356a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009